the four ranges are located between 6 to 40 kms away from Dehradun. Due to increase of population and expansion of Dehradun city the distance from the civilian population to these firing ranges may have changed. There has been no report of any civilian residential area being affected by firing practice in any of the firing ranges. Adequate precautionary and safety measures are taken to obviate the risk of danger to any civilian.

(b) does not aries.

Development of Missiles

4721. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Trishul surface to air missile has been developed;

(b) if so, whether it has been inducted in Navy, and

(c) if not, the schedule for its development?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The state-of-the-art missileTrishul for the Navy has two roles namely, surface-to-air and anti-sea skimmer. The missile is in final stages of evaluation with user participation.

(c) After completion of the on-going evaluation trials, the missile system is planned to undergo sea trials by mid 2001 followed by indication into the Navy.

Utilisation of Funds'by Army

4722. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether army failed to utilise over Rs. 1000/- crores of budget for 1999-2000 inspite of modernisation/ upgradation, demand of arms, ammunition and other equipments;

(b) if so, the reasons for failing to finalise equipment purchase and upgradation" demands; and

(c) the steps proposed to cut short procedural delay in purchasing equipment on priorities?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Final Accounts for 1999-2000 are not yet due. However, from the

preliminary figures regarding the progress of expenditure, utilisation of Army Budget has not fallen short by around Rs. 1000/- crores.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Registration of New Products in CSD

4723. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Canteen Stores Department is not opening for new products;

(b) whether it is also a fact that ony the old registered products get a chance in the CSD;

(c) what steps are proposed to open up the Canteen Stores Department to competition for the benefit of the service personnel; and

(d) the details of steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The existing provisions for introduction of items in Canteen Stores Department inventory encourage competition, for the benefit of service personnel. The system of introduction of items involves Preliminary Screening by a Committee, Market Survey to ascertain retail rate and acceptability, Price Negotiations by a Committee, Factory Inspection and Hygienic Testing. Requests are considered at various levels, in accordance with the established procedure, for introduction of items and decisions arc taken accordingly.

(d) In view of the answer at (c) above, the question docs not arise.

Clearance to digitize Topo Sheets

4724. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to accord clearance to digitize topo sheets and for permitting NRSA to supply unmasked IRS satellite data for use by the consultants for Natural Hazard Mitigation studies to save lives and properties during floods and cyclone; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?